



Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission

2008 Annual Report

The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) was established in 1993 and tasked with creating an accreditation opportunity specific to Virginia law enforcement. Since that time, the Commission has overseen the development of a comprehensive, efficient, and viable process that can assist Virginia's law enforcement community in the development and certification of policy and procedure. The Executive Board of the VLEPSC consists of representatives selected by the Virginia Sheriffs Association (VSA) and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP). The partnership developed by the VACP, VSA and the state Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is unique among state level accreditation programs in the country. Virginia is the only state accreditation program that can boast of this format for the sharing of leadership. The Virginia process is voluntary, attainable and relatively cost free. The Commission first accepted applications for accredited status on January 1, 1996 and completed 2008 with approximately 115 agencies involved in some phase of the program.

NEWLY ACCREDITED/REACCREDITED AGENCIES

The following **Sheriff's Offices** received their initial accreditation during 2008:

- Tazewell County Sheriff's Office
- Frederick County Sheriff's Office
- Caroline County Sheriff's Office

The following **Police Departments** received initial accreditation from the VLEPSC during 2008:

- Wintergreen Police Department
- Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department
- City of Falls Church Police Department
- City of Norfolk Police Department

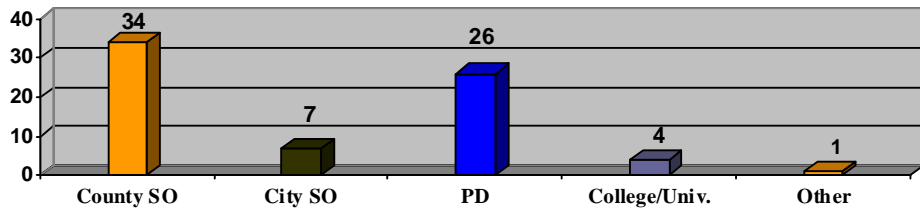
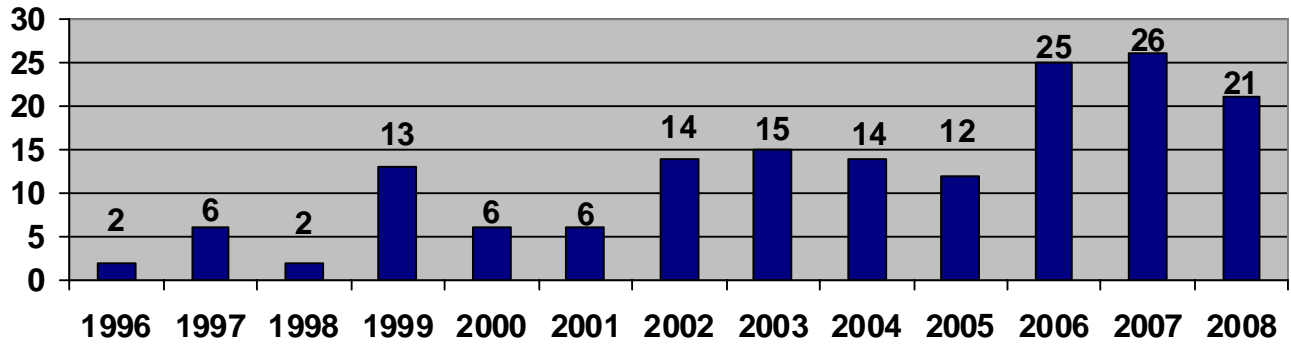
As of December 31, 2008, 72 law enforcement agencies held VLEPSC accredited status.

Also during the past year eleven (11) agencies were re-accredited by the Commission. The agencies re-accredited during 2006 include:

- Botetourt County Sheriff's Office
- Norfolk City Sheriff's Office
- Goochland County Sheriff's Office*
- Stafford County Sheriff's Office*
- Smithfield Police Department*
- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office*
- Albemarle County Police Department*
- Campbell County Sheriff's Office*
- Christiansburg Police Department*
- Charlottesville Police Department*
- Herndon Police Department

**Agencies re-accredited twice*

■ Assessments Conducted



NEW AGENCY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN 2008

Appomattox County Sheriff's Office
 Bristol Police Department
 Clarke County Sheriff's Office
 Cumberland County Sheriff's Office
 Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
 Glade Spring Police Department
 Greene County Sheriff's Office
 Hopewell Sheriff's Office
 Patrick County Sheriff's Office
 Roanoke City Sheriff's Office

Bluefield Police Department
 Chincoteague Police Department
 Colonial Beach Police Department
 Dumfries Police Department
 Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office
 Gordonsville Police Department
 Henry County Sheriff's Office
 James Madison University Police Department
 Richmond County Sheriff's Office
 Rocky Mount Police Department

EXECUTIVE BOARD AWARD

During the 2008 VALEAC Spring Training Conference, the VLEPSC Commission awarded Chief (Ret) Dave Daigneault from the James City County Police Department with the 2008 Executive Board Award. Dave is firmly committed to the accreditation process, having served as an accreditation manager and assessor for both CALEA and VLEPSC. Even as Chief, he served the process as an assessor. Dave believes that accreditation is an important process for the development of a professional police department/Sheriff's Office. It forces a department to stay on top of its policies and procedures that might otherwise be put on the back burner due to other pressing issues. Dave also believes that accreditation can help to develop future leaders in the department.

ACCREDITATION PARTNERS

Although the Commission operates as an independent body, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) staffs the project. DCJS remains committed to the state accreditation program and continues to provide the financial backing for day-to-day services.

The VLEPSC program is dependent on the voluntary participation of individual law enforcement personnel. The assessment of agencies seeking accredited status is conducted by three-member teams composed of Virginia law enforcement personnel that are selected from the Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Coalition (VALEAC). The program could not be successful without participating agency Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs allowing agency personnel to travel to applicant agencies in order to conduct assessments. The use of voluntary assessors allows the Virginia process to keep costs to minimal levels.

VALEAC continues to be an asset to VLEPSC and has been instrumental in contributing to the success of this program. Its members and leaders conduct quarterly meetings and training for new accreditation managers and assessors. Their annual spring conference grows in attendance each year as the participation in the Virginia program increases.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The current members of the VLEPSC Executive Board (and the year they took office) are as follows:

Sheriff F. W. Howard – <i>Vice Chairman</i> (1993) New Kent County SO	Chief Gary Roche (2007) Town of Pulaski PD
Sheriff V. Stuart Cook (2004) Hanover County SO	Chief James R. Bryant (2003) City of Salem PD
Sheriff Terry E. Gaddy (2008) Campbell County SO	Chief Timothy J. Longo, Sr. (2006) City of Charlottesville PD
Sheriff Gerald S. Holt (2004) Roanoke County SO	Chief John J. Skinner – <i>Chairman</i> (2003) City of Manassas PD
Sheriff Charles E. Jett (2000) Stafford County SO	Chief Toussaint E. Summers, Jr. (2000) Town of Herndon PD
Sheriff Fred Newman (2008) Washington County SO	Chief Emmett Harmon – <i>Treasurer</i> (2007) James City County PD

SUMMARY

The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission continues to provide a matrix for self-inspection for all Virginia sheriffs offices and police departments. Since its inception in 1993, the Commission has endeavored to make accreditation a viable reality for all agencies, regardless of size or financial constraints. The Commission believes in the importance of providing an accreditation program for Virginia's 400 plus agencies that is comprehensive, well administered and approachable. The Virginia program recognizes our obligation to assist all of law enforcement in their efforts toward professional advancement. The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission, the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police, the Virginia Sheriffs Association and the Department of Criminal Justice Services are all committed to the continuation of our independent and uniquely Virginian, accreditation program.

